

**IN THE
UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Gillis, et al.

CASE: DUR-021130

SERIAL NO.: 10/707,983

FILING DATE: January 29, 2004

FOR: Expandable Bore Trocar

EXTENSION OF TIME

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION OF:
Art Unit 3763
EXAMINER:
Paul Smith
CONFIRMATION NO.
1982

Dear Examiner Smith:

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 50-0545.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136, Applicant respectfully requests an extension of the period in which to file the response to the Office Action mailed June 13, 2006, regarding the above-identified patent application, for an additional three months, from September 13, 2006 up to and including December 13, 2006.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136, Applicant respectfully submits that a response was originally required to be filed on September 13, 2006, a period of three months from the mailing date of the Office Action; that the above-identified patent application is not involved in an interference proceeding; and that the Applicant herewith submits the three-month small entity Extension of Time fee of \$510.00, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a).

FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.
1327 W. Washington Blvd, Suite 5G/H
Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 226-1818 Telephone
(312) 226-1919 Facsimile

Jody L. Factor
Micheal D. Lake
Edward L. Bishop
Joseph M. Kinsella Jr.
Nick S. Lee

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39110
45743
54260

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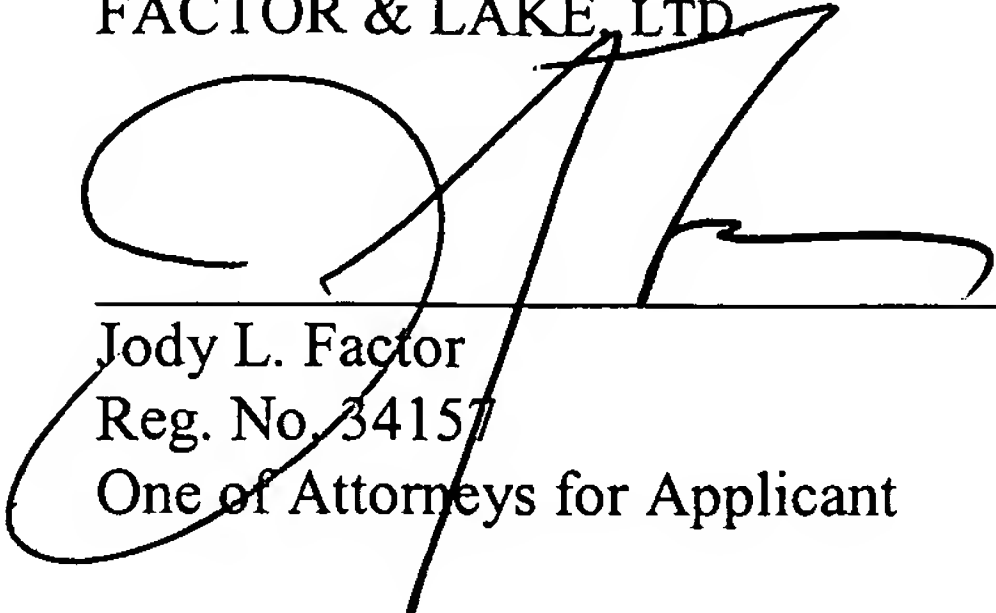
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Applicant accordingly petitions for acceptance of the presently requested three month extension of time.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,

FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

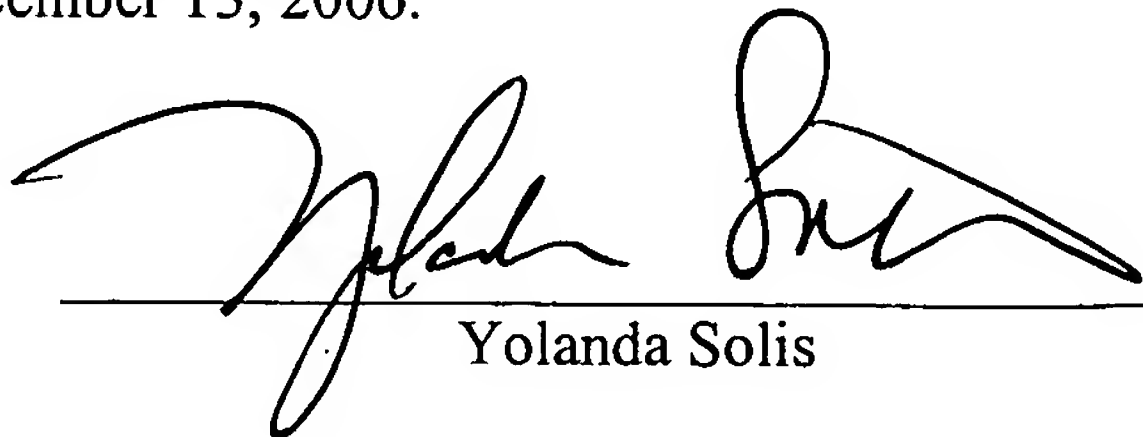


Jody L. Factor
Reg. No. 34157
One of Attorneys for Applicant

Dated: December 13, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON JUNE 13, 2006 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Patent Ext., Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2006.



Yolanda Solis